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18. A computer-implemented method for displaying passenger-specific information to passengers preparing to board for a departure comprising the steps of:

transmitting the passenger-specific information to a processing system, wherein the passenger-specific information comprises one of passenger seating information, passenger standby status, passenger upgrade status, passenger connection information, and targeted advertising; and

displaying the passenger-specific information on an electronic display coupled to the processing system.

19. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, wherein the targeted advertising is selected based on information about the passenger.

20. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, wherein the electronic display is proximate to a departure gate.

21. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, further comprising the step of projecting an idle mode screen, comprising general flight information, on the electronic display prior to transmission of the passenger-specific information.

22. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, wherein the step of displaying the passenger-specific information comprises a transition from an idle mode

screen to a departure mode screen in response to a first trigger event, the departure mode screen comprising one of passenger standby status, passenger upgrade status, passenger connection information, and targeted advertising.

23. The computer-implemented method of Claim 22, wherein the first trigger event is a designated time before departure.

24. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, wherein the step of displaying the passenger-specific information comprises a transition from a departure mode screen to a boarding mode screen in response to a second trigger event, the boarding mode screen comprising one of passenger seating information, passenger standby status, passenger upgrade status, passenger connection information, and targeted advertising.

25. The computer-implemented method of Claim 24, wherein the second trigger event is a designated time before departure.

26. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, wherein the step of displaying an idle mode screen, a departure mode screen, and a boarding mode screen on the electronic display comprises passenger-specific advertising.

27. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, wherein a departure mode screen and a boarding mode screen are displayed in association with the passenger-specific information.

28. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, further comprising the steps of:

clearing one of the passengers assigned a standby status to board;

prompting the standby passenger to board by displaying a prompt on the electronic display; and

upon attempting to board, confirming the standby passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system.

29. The computer-implemented method of Claim 18, further comprising the steps of:

approving an upgrade of one of the passengers;

prompting the passenger to board by displaying the upgrade approval on the electronic display; and

upon attempting to board, confirming the passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processing system.

30. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 18.

31. A computer-implemented method for providing current air travel information to passengers, comprising the steps of:

displaying a boarding screen on an electronic display coupled to a processor;

receiving boarding information for passengers at the processor, wherein the boarding information comprises one of passenger seating information, passenger standby status, passenger upgrade status, passenger connection information, and passenger-specific advertising; and

displaying the boarding information for the passengers in association with the boarding screen shown on the electronic display.

32. The computer-implemented method of Claim 31, wherein the electronic display is proximate to a departure gate.

33. The computer-implemented method of Claim 31, further comprising the steps of:

displaying an idle screen; and

transitioning from displaying the idle screen to displaying the departure screen in response to a first trigger event.

34. The computer implemented method of Claim 33, wherein the first trigger event is a designated time before departure.

35. The computer-implemented method of Claim 31, further comprising the steps of:

displaying a departure screen; and

transitioning from displaying the departure screen to displaying the boarding screen in response to a second trigger event.

36. The computer implemented method of Claim 35, wherein the second trigger event is a designated time before departure.

37. The computer-implemented method of Claim 31, wherein the passenger-specific advertising is selected based on information about the passenger.

38. The computer-implemented method of Claim 31, further comprising the steps of:

clearing one of the passengers assigned a standby status;

prompting the standby passenger to board by displaying a prompt on the electronic display; and

upon attempting to board, confirming the standby passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processor.

39. The computer-implemented method of Claim 31, further comprising the steps of:

approving an upgrade of one of the passengers;

prompting the upgrade passenger to board by displaying the upgrade approval on the electronic display; and

upon attempting to board, confirming the passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the processor.

40. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 31.

41. A computer-implemented method for providing passenger seating information to passengers in a terminal comprising the steps of:

receiving the seating information for one of the passengers at a computing system; and

displaying the passenger's seating information on an electronic display coupled to the computing system, the passenger's seating information comprising a readily recognizable identifier for the passenger and a corresponding seat assignment.

42. The computer-implemented method of Claim 41, further comprising the steps of:

upon attempting to board, reading the passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing system; and

using the passenger's identity to confirm that the passenger is permitted to board.

43. The computer-implemented method of Claim 42, further comprising the step of displaying the passenger's seating information at the scanning device.

44. The computer-implemented method of Claim 42, further comprising the step of printing a copy of the passenger's seating information for the passenger.

45. The computer-implemented method of Claim 41, further comprising the step of displaying passenger upgrade information on the electronic display.

46. The computer-implemented method of Claim 41, further comprising the steps of :

displaying the upgrade status for one of the passenger's on the electronic display;

determining that the passenger's upgrade is approved;

displaying the passenger's upgraded seating information on the electronic display; and

upon attempting to board, confirming the passenger's identity and upgraded seating information by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing system.

47. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 41.

48. A computer-implemented method for displaying standby information to passengers in a terminal comprising the steps of:

receiving the standby information for one of the passengers at a computing device; and

displaying the passenger's standby information on an electronic display coupled to the computing device.

49. The computer-implemented method of Claim 48, further comprising the steps of:

determining that the standby passenger is approved for boarding;

based on the approval, displaying the standby passenger's seating information on an electronic display coupled to the remote computing device; and

upon attempting to board, confirming the standby passenger's identity by scanning a unique identifier for the passenger with a scanning device coupled to the computing system.

50. The computer-implemented method of Claim 49, further comprising the step of displaying the standby passenger's seating information at the scanning device.

51. The computer-implemented method of Claim 49, further comprising the step of printing a copy of the standby passenger's information at the scanning device.

52. The computer-implemented method of Claim 48, further comprising the step of displaying standby availability information on the electronic display .

53. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 48.

54. A system for providing passenger-specific information to passengers in preparation for boarding comprising:

a remote computing system coupled to the data storage system, the remote computing system operable for receiving passenger-specific data, wherein passenger-specific data comprises one of passenger seating information, passenger standby status, passenger upgrade status, passenger connection information, and targeted advertising; and

an electronic display coupled to the remote computing system, the electronic display operable for rendering passenger-specific data in preparation for boarding.

55. The system of Claim 54, wherein the remote computing system and the electronic display are proximate to a departure gate.

56. The system of Claim 54, wherein the remote computing system is coupled to a plurality of electronic displays.

57. The system of Claim 54, wherein the electronic display is further operable for rendering one of an idle mode screen, a departure mode screen, and a boarding mode screen.

58. The system of Claim 54, wherein the electronic display is further operable for transitioning from an idle mode screen to a departure mode screen in response to a first trigger event.

59. The system of Claim 58, wherein the first trigger event is a designated time before departure.

60. The system of Claim 54, wherein the electronic display is further operable for transitioning from a departure mode screen to a boarding mode screen in response to a second trigger event.

61. The system of Claim 60, wherein the second trigger event is a designated time before departure.

62. The system of Claim 64, further comprising a scanning device coupled to the remote computing system, the scanning device operable for collecting identifying data from a passenger.

63. The system of Claim 62, wherein the scanning device is further operable for displaying the passenger's seating information.

64. The system of Claim 62, wherein the scanning device is further operable for printing a copy of the passenger's seating information.

65. The system of Claim 62, wherein the scanning device provides the identifying data to the remote computing system for confirming that the passenger is permitted to board.